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Title:Need to set up a Coast Guard Station at Alappuzha in Kerala.

DR. K.S. MANOJ (ALLEPPEY): Kerala has a coastline of 590 Kms. more than 1/6 of this is in Alappuzha district. There are 2 fishing harbours in operation and two more are coming up. There is a proposal for Marina-cum-Cargo terminal at erstwhile Alappuzha port. There is increase in marine fishing activities. The nearest coast guard stations are at Kochi and Kollam. These two are around 150 kms. apart. There were incidents of unidentified vessels appearing in the seacoast. When informed by the fishermen usually it takes hours for a surveillance team to search the spot. In incidents of fishing boat capsizing due to heavy storm it is very difficult to get the services of coast guard. In view of the increased maritime threat, it is desirable to establish a coast guard station at Alappuzha. So, I urge upon the Government to establish a coast guard station at Alappuzha.